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GILLINGHAM EARNS A SECOND CITY COUNCILLOR ENDORSEMENT

Jeff Browaty praises Scott Gillingham for “steady hand” budget leadership, collaboration

(Winnipeg) – Today, Winnipeg’s longest-serving city councillor, Jeff Browaty (North Kildonan), endorsed Scott Gillingham’s campaign to be Mayor of Winnipeg. He made the announcement along with Gillingham at the Millennium Gardens in the North Kildonan ward.

Browaty currently serves as Chair of City Council’s Finance Committee and praised Gillingham’s “steady hand” during the COVID-19 crisis.

“As City Council’s Finance Chair, Scott realized the pandemic would be a financial crisis as well as a health crisis before almost any other city leader in Canada,” Browaty said. “He crafted and had council approve an emergency financial plan within weeks. Thanks to him, Winnipeg was one of only two major Canadian cities to give unconditional assistance to small businesses through the COVID-19 Economic Support Grant Program - and the only city to do rounds of pandemic grants twice.”

Browaty also praised Gillingham’s leadership as Finance Chair from 2016 to 2022:

- **Property tax restraint.** In a 2020 City of Calgary study, Winnipeg ranked lowest out of 11 sample Canadian cities in property tax revenue taxed from the average two-story home, and 8th out of 11 for a typical bungalow.
- **Credibility.** S&P graded Winnipeg’s credit as better than Manitoba’s, while Moody’s praised Gillingham’s multi-year budget planning approach in 2021.
- **Frugality.** Average spending growth in Gillingham’s 2016-2022 budgets was less than 0.5% over inflation, even as Winnipeg accelerated spending on key priorities like investments in roads.

Browaty also spoke to Gillingham’s collaborative style. “Scott builds partnerships across party lines quickly, because he takes the time to listen to Manitobans with a diversity of views.”

Browaty’s announcement is the third major endorsement Gillingham has received in the first month of his campaign. Deputy Mayor Markus Chambers (City Councillor, St. Norbert) and former Long Plains First Nation Chief Dennis Meeches both endorsed Gillingham on May 5, 2022.

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